

REMARKS

In this Response, claims 1, 2, 4, 6 and 8 are amended. New claims 9-12 are added. No new matter is introduced by the amendments. Please cancel claims 3 and 7, without prejudice. Accordingly, claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 8-12 are pending in the present application. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the application in view of the above amendments and remarks made herein.

I. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 4 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite, for the reasons set forth on page 2 of the Office Action. In this Response, claims 4 and 8 are amended to correct informalities. Withdrawal of the instant rejections is respectfully requested.

II. Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1, 2, 3 and 7 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 3,609,865 issued to *Golden* (hereinafter "*Golden*"), for the reasons set forth on page 3 of the Office Action. Claims 1 and 4 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,494,542 issued to *Lee* (hereinafter "*Lee*"), for the reasons set forth on page 3 of the Office Action. Claims 1 and 5 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,380,232, issued to *Metcalf* (hereinafter "*Metcalf*") for the reasons set forth on pages 3-4 of the Office Action. Claims 1 and 6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 1,714,822, issued to *Segal* (hereinafter "*Segal*") for the reasons set forth on page 4 of the Office Action. Claims 1, 2 and 8 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,976,718, issued to *Daniell* (hereinafter "*Daniell*") for the reasons set forth on pages 4-5 of the Office Action. Applicant notes that claim 1 is amended in this Response.

With respect to claim 1, Applicant submits that none of *Golden*, *Lee*, *Metcalf*, *Segal* or *Daniell*, alone or in combination, teaches or suggests "a pressing portion in which a first extension and a second extension are formed, which correspond to each

other and are branched off and extended from the holder, and including a ring-like pimple insertion hole formed inward of the first and second extensions, wherein a bottom of the pressing portion is formed of a convex curved surface".

In an exemplary embodiment of the present invention described in connection with Figs. 3 to 5B, a pimple removal utensil 100 includes a holder 101 and a pressing portion 106 in which a first extension 110 and a second extension 120 are formed, and wherein the extensions correspond to each other by forming an insertion hole 114. As shown in Figs. 3, 4, 5A and 6, the insertion hole 114 has a ring-like shape.

In contrast, Golden (col. 2, lines 1-6; Fig. 1) discloses a "fork like utensil ... comprises an elongated handle 11 terminating at its forward end in an enlarged base portion 12 from which there extends outer side prongs 13 and 14 and a central or intermediate prong 15; the prongs being separated by elongated slots 16 and 17." That is, in Golden, slots 16 and 17 are formed between outer side prongs 13 and 14 and an intermediate prong 15 to prevent food such as spaghetti from slipping therebetween. Applicant respectfully submits that the *elongated slots* 16 and 17 between outer side prongs 13 and 14 and the intermediate prong 15 for gripping food do not teach or suggest "*ring-like pimple insertion hole* formed inward of the first and second extensions", as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Moreover, in *Golden* (Figs. 1 and 2), the *outer side prongs* 13 and 14 are *flat*. This does not teach or suggest "wherein a bottom of the pressing portion is formed of a *convex curved surface*", as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added). With regard to the intermediate prong 15, it does not teach or suggest the claimed "pressing portion *in which a first extension and a second extension are formed*", as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Therefore, for at least the above reasons, *Golden* does not anticipate claim 1.

Lee relates to a suture cutting instrument. *Lee* (col. 2, lines 22-26) discloses that "an apparatus 10 for cutting and extracting a suture 20" comprises "a pair of tines 11a and 11b that extend from a longitudinal body 12 having a handle portion 13 at an opposite end." *Lee* (col. 2, lines 35-38) discloses: "It will be observed that the *slot* 15 is

open at the free ends *to freely admit the suture* and closed at a neck portion 17 of the body 12 in order to snare and retain a knot 22 as shown in FIGS. 4 and 5" (emphasis added). Applicant respectfully submits that the *slot 15 to freely admit the suture*, in *Lee*, does not teach or suggest "ring-like pimple insertion hole formed inward of the first and second extensions", as recited in claim 1 (emphasis added).

Therefore, for at least the above reasons, *Lee* does not anticipate claim 1.

Metcalf (Fig. 1) shows a tweezer 1, comprising a pair of jaws 2, 3. *Metcalf* (lines 63-67) discloses: "The jaw 3 is provided with a lug 10 forming a shoulder back of which one end of the lever [8] is adapted to fulcrum and the other end ... forming a finger or thumb recess 11." *Metcalf* (lines 68-72) discloses that the pair of jaws 2, 3 is forced toward each other by the cam action of the lever 8 when pressed inwardly by the thumb of the user. This does not teach or suggest "ring-like pimple insertion hole formed inward of the first and second extensions", as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, for at least the above reasons, *Metcalf* does not anticipate claim 1.

Segal (lines 49-50; Figs. 1-6) discloses a tweezer including a pair of jaws 10. *Segal* does not teach or suggest "ring-like pimple insertion hole formed inward of the first and second extensions", as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, for at least the above reasons, *Segal* does not anticipate claim 1.

Daniell (lines 38-47; Fig. 1) discloses: "Referring to FIG. 1, the forceps 8 has two opposed arms, 10 and 12 Each of the opposed arms has a proximal end 14 and a distal end 16. The opposed arms are joined [at] their proximal ends 14. ... When in its open position, the arms 10 and 12 are spaced a sufficient distance to clear the body of a parasite." In *Daniell*, a teeth set 80 is formed at a position where the opposed arms 10 and 12 are brought to their closed position. Thus, *Daniell* does not teach or suggest "ring-like pimple insertion hole formed inward of the first and second extensions", as recited in claim 1.

Therefore, for at least the above reasons, *Daniell* does not anticipate claim 1.

Applicant submits that inasmuch as claims 2, 4-6, and 8 are dependent on claim 1, and claim 1 is patentable over the cited references, claims 2, 4-6, and 8 are patentable as dependent on a patentable independent claim. Withdrawal of the instant rejections is respectfully requested.

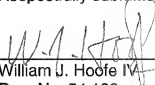
In view of the foregoing, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) should be withdrawn.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, it is believed that all claims now pending patentably define the subject invention over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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